

TRAINING THE ISLAND YOUTH

The Kamehameha School For Boys.

STRONG BODIES; SOUND MINDS.

Daily Life of the Students, Their Work and Pleasures.

THE KAMEHAMEHA Preparatory and Manual Training Schools for Boys are situated upon an immense tract of land in Kapalama and are separated from the Kamehameha School for Girls only by the road, which runs between them. The boys' schools lie upon the right hand side and cover, at the present time, eighty acres of land, whereas the girls' stretching out to the left, covers but twenty acres.

As the Department of Agriculture grows it will be found necessary to take in more land and it is safe to say that from seventy to seventy-five acres will be none too much for the needs of these Kamehameha Schools.

The children of Mrs. Bernice Pauahi Bishop's great belief in and thought for the welfare of her people.

Mrs. Bishop, whose birthday was fittingly observed with appropriate ceremony at the schools on the 19th inst., was born December 19, 1831. She was the daughter of Paki and the high chiefess Konia and was the last of the line of Kamehameha.

Nowhere in the North and South Pacific; neither in Australia, nor in England, France and Germany, can be found a similar institution. It is radically and fundamentally unlike, owing to nationality, temperament and climatic differences.

The Hampton Schools, in the United States, have many similar features, but others differentiate so greatly that there all resemblance ceases.

It is in no sense a collegiate school. Neither is it wholly manual or agricultural. Its foundation, thanks to the sound, common sense of the far-sighted founder, Mrs. Bishop, is laid upon a broad and liberal plan.

According to the wording of her will these boys were to receive a good education in the ordinary English branches as well as instruction in morals and all useful knowledge "as may tend to make good and industrious men."

These boys and young men may here enjoy a natural life, varied occasionally by contact with the outside world. They are not only being developed physically, but enlightened along the line of liberal progress.

The buildings form a double semicircle about the campus, with beautiful Bishop Hall, Bishop Museum and the equally stately Bishop Memorial Chapel, where all three schools worship, standing out prominently. These buildings are of native basalt. The Museum is already covered on one side with vines. The grounds are still a trifle new, but the ornamental trees will grow and the experimental shrubs and plants, many-hued and often of foreign root or seed, will make an Eden of this vast place. The combined architectural effects with the creepers, shrubs, trees and flowers, will result in the Kamehameha School for Boys being in five years' time the greatest educational show-place in the Pacific.

The campus at present covers three acres of ground, which affords ample space for their field sports and track athletic games.

There are no secret societies. In fact, only existing societies are musical ones. They have an excellent band and several glee clubs. Many have been started but, as is usual in such cases, has been a sort of "survival of the fittest" and they gradually dwindled down to a few but choice ones.

The Hawaiians are a distinctly music-loving race and there is scarcely a lad who does not play some stringed instrument, and they sing delightfully their native airs.

There are about a hundred and fifty boys in the Manual at present and sixty in the Preparatory. They must have Hawaiian blood, "be it a sixteenth or a whole," to gain admission to the schools. And this, which is almost pure white and several are so thoroughly Caucasian that one wonders where the streak of native blood can possibly come in!

In the class room they wear khaki suits. In town and on dress occasions they appear in their cadet uniforms.

And I will say that nowhere may be seen a physically sounder or finer set of boys than these lads. Many are very handsome. Some are most pure white and several are so thoroughly Caucasian that one wonders where the streak of native blood can possibly come in!

There is absolutely nothing to show the trace and they might pass muster anywhere.

The finances are in more than a prosperous condition. The Bishop Estate is a vast one. These lands about the buildings are but a fraction of the grant.

The spirit of democracy pervades the institution. No boy stands a whit higher than his fellow student and all have equal rights. The whole tendency is toward simplicity of life. But courtesy is inculcated in the Preparatory and insisted upon in the Manual.

There are five dormitories. Each boy has a room to himself with mosquito-proof windows and transoms.

The floors are painted, and in the newer dormitories I think the floors are hardwood. Each room is comfortably furnished. Most of the boys have beautified their "dens" with the many knickknacks dear to the heart of youth; with photographs, prints and with cushions, pillows, etc. A modern lavatory is attached to each dormitory, having plain baths and the new improved shower system. The floors can be easily flushed and they are large, light and airy.

Each boy keeps his own room in order irrespective of teachers, but it is daily inspected by the teacher living in his dormitory. And on Sunday there is a formal inspection by the principal, major, senior captain and sergeants, while the boys stand at attention.

The hospital, although small, is perfect in its way and is admirably ordered. The bandages, rolled by scientific fingers until they are firm and hard, are disinfected and placed in sanitary jars ready for use. The thermometers and nurses' clinical records and drug

closet give evidence of careful attention to the emergencies of a big institution, and one of Honolulu's leading doctors goes the rounds. Trained nurses are employed in fevers or serious ailments and the boys of the highest grade are here given practical illustration and instruction in the care of the sick or wounded, if any.

The wards are cool, clean and airy. The building includes a reception room and a kitchen. And, best of all it is completely isolated from all other buildings.

There are four charming cottages in which the married teachers live and a large dining hall where teachers and boys meet daily. The lads take care of the dining hall and do much of the cooking; wash the dishes, wait on themselves and care for the building generally.

The floor is hard finished and the whole place is kept scrupulously clean and fresh-looking. The halls and landings are beautified by pots and tubs of fish-tail and other varieties of fern, lilies and taro plants and palms.

From 9 o'clock until noon the Manual boys meet daily in the class rooms of Bishop Hall, and work in the shops or on the farm from 1 o'clock to 5 p. m. Each boy works in one of the shops one and a half hours each day for one year and then moves on to the next shop the following year.

The shops are grouped at about even distances apart and occupy ground near the entrance to the lower driveway.

The tailor shop is for boys of the lowest grade. Here they are taught to cut, paste and sew their suits of khaki cloth and cadet blue cloth. The second year they enter the printing office and the third year pass on to wood turning and the carpenter shop, including pattern-making.

The forge shop is entered the fourth year and the fifth year boys go into the machine shop. They may enter any shop they please the sixth and final year, in order to perfect themselves in a chosen trade.

In the evening they congregate for study, from 6:30 to 8:30, in the Bishop Hall.

I wish to make reference to the publications of which there are two. "Handicraft" is beautifully printed upon nice paper; and properly speaking is not due to any special energy on the part of the boys, as it depends upon the teachers for contributions; but "Blue and White" is a student publication. It is nicely conducted and gives one a good impression. Whenever a boy in writing an article for this paper makes a mistake in his grammar, orthography or punctuation, his teacher simply places an X against it and leaves him to work out his own salvation. If he cannot correct his mistake then in it goes, just as it stands, and that has been found to be the best of correctives.

Through this medium the lads criticize whatever they think wrong and thus create public opinion that will do much for good discipline in the school.

Their recreations are rational and the social side is given attention, as it is one of the things the faculty believe in. Said the principal: "We think it right to bring the young people together in a proper way. We say to them, 'Here's the house. Invite the young ladies, make out your program and remember you will be responsible for the entertainment.'"

Thus throwing them upon their own responsibility and making them early to yet the role of host will result in lasting good to the individual.

They are good lads and their principal spoke in the highest terms of their character and their work. Their life is so regular and their time so filled that little desire for mischief presents itself.

The boys and girls of the Kamehameha Schools meet every Sunday for service in Bishop Memorial Chapel and occasionally they get up a program among themselves for Sunday evening service.

Once a month, on a Sunday afternoon, the three schools take part in the ceremony of lowering the flag, and twenty-six of the young ladies are invited to remain and take dinner with the boys, who prepare everything and this event is always eagerly looked forward to and made enjoyable to the guests of honor.

The gymnasium is a large building with every necessary equipment. The lads train and exercise a half hour each week.

About the middle of October the track games begin. They play baseball whenever they get an opportunity.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the printing done by these lads under the supervision of their instructor. All programs, invitations, cards, etc., are clearly and beautifully printed upon fashionable paper after the most approved fashionable methods and compare favorably with work done in the town's large establishments.

Quite a great deal of class equipment is made in the shops; all mending, all repairing is done on the premises, and the machine shop turns out some complicated bits of machinery. They have recently finished a saw for a very prominent Honolulu man, which has been forwarded to his country residence and will give satisfaction, demonstrating the fact that their work is of a practical and salable quality.

Every Monday morning fruit and forest trees are planted on the mountain side, which will prove of inestimable value in the future.

The agricultural department is one of the great features of this institution. It covers but five acres at present, but is bound to attain great proportions as time goes on. The department has been divided into the following divisions:

The Class Room Work—Chemistry (lessons in), Agriculture and a little Nature Study.

The Propagating Bench and Gardens.

The Dairy.

The Vegetable Garden.

The Mountain Forest.

The Weather Bureau Observations.

The Chemical Laboratory (for the instructor).

The Agricultural Library.

The Sorghum and Fodder Fields.

The Ornamental Part of the Grounds.

The Fruit Garden.

The Pigery.

The Flower Garden.

"Each division is quite complete in itself although in the first stages of development," said the instructor in this department—himself a graduate from a university, a State agricultural college and a man who has undergone farm labor in order to practically demonstrate the value of getting right down to Mother Nature.

Said he, "My entire system can be resolved into this one sentence: While teaching subjects pertaining to agriculture, health and development, keep constantly before the pupil the ultimate object of your efforts; and make as few set exercises as possible. I teach my boys the care of trees from the very first steps. The seed is given them (if grown from seed) and they are shown the proper methods of planting and in fact learn the elementary problems of nursery work."

"Very little is said of the finer points of the art, such as naming just the ele-

ments his soil may need, etc., but the idea is constantly kept before him that it depends upon him whether or not there will be a grove of trees growing in the near future.

"If a pupil fails in his first attempt, he still has some incentive to try again, until finally a tree is the result of his efforts."

"We will say that the tree is still in the box on the propagating bench. It will be readily seen that any number of problems present themselves from the time the seed is planted to the present—lessons in horticulture, chemistry, entomology, botany, irrigation, the use of sprays, etc."

"By the time the tree is ready for the forest or grove the pupil has laid the foundations, and probably a love (at least a respect) for agricultural learning."

The gardens where propagating goes on show many trees, plants, shrubs and flowers in their first stages. Many of these will be replaced by others equally useful, as the experimenting is always advancing and the instructor's work is to prove just what kind and varieties will thrive here and the soil necessary to each is fully explained in the process of demonstration.

The vegetable garden is growing so fast that more land must be taken in shortly and greater irrigation facilities will be provided.

The mountain forest has been a big success. It is now extending up the sides of the mountain and almost every tree planted has lived.

The flower garden is in a crude condition now but the time will come when they will have plenty for their own needs, house decoration, etc., and plenty to spare. Apropos of this the cassia flower has proved an immense success.

The boys turned out and gathered the blossoms which were dried and sent through to New York, where they fetched \$85 for perfumery purposes. They were placed for sale merely to demonstrate their commercial value, and are now offered as a new field for the Hawaiian young woman to engage in, as has been the case with the American sister with violets and roses.

It is easy, pleasant and profitable work, suited to the climate and people.

The dairy is in the first experimental stage. It contains eleven cows. There are sorghum fields and when the sorghum is ready it is chopped by a feed cutter run by a gasoline engine. The cattle are housed properly, but it is proposed to erect new buildings after plans to be submitted shortly. They will have cement floors, as have the pigery, which is daily flushed and kept in a most charming state of cleanliness.

The weather bureau observations play an important part in the curriculum and many of the boys are very proficient with the rain gauge, etc.

When these young lads leave the Kamehameha Schools it is confidently hoped and expected that the wish of their noble benefactress may be realized—that they shall go forth and make "good and industrious men."

MRS. WESTON COYNE.

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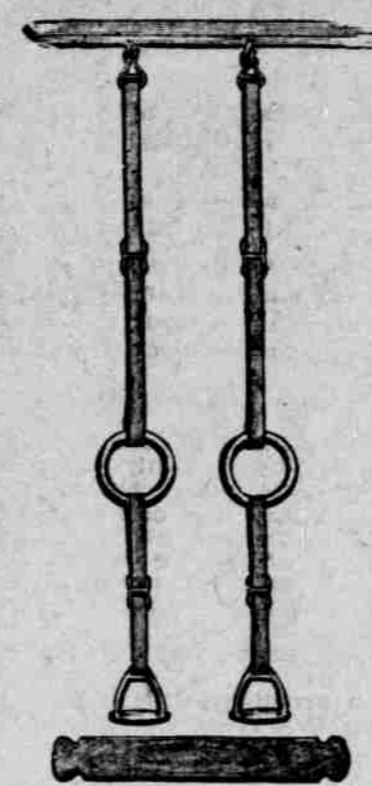
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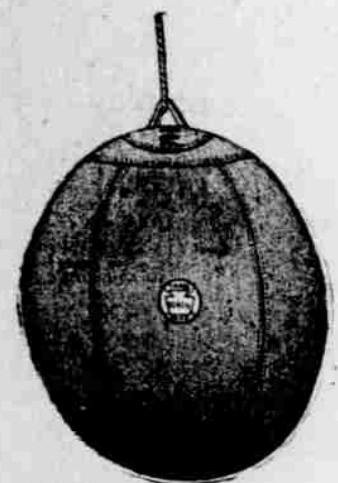
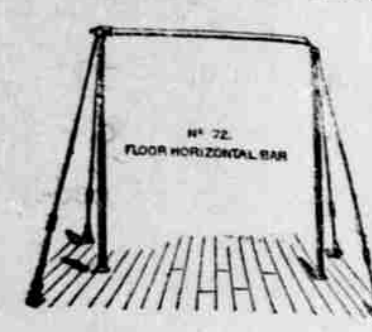
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